Search and Rescue Training Advisory Committee

The Search and Rescue Training Center created a Search and Rescue Advisory Committee (SARTAC). The committee is a diverse group of individuals who represent many search disciplines. Members come from agencies and organizations that utilize the Search and Rescue Training Center. These individuals have expertise in the disciplines they represent and come from search and rescue organizations, public safety organizations, professional and academic institutions involved with public safety and/or search and rescue initiatives or services, and non-public safety organizations with public safety and/or search and rescue initiatives or interests.

The committee focuses on recommending curriculum, developing new training courses, reviewing course material, assisting instructors during courses, identifying potential instructors, and other important issues around which consensus can be reached and joint action undertaken. This provides more effective training, coordination, and communications between the Search and Rescue Training Center and the search and rescue responders.

The center strives to meet the ever-changing needs of emergency response agencies, by providing joint training and communicating through the SARTAC. The center continues to advance Indiana's emergency response capabilities through training and mutual cooperation.



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About the Center

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security Training Institute's Search and Rescue Training Center was constructed by volunteers in 1990 and is located at Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh, Indiana.

The Search and Rescue Training Center offers numerous training courses, and has exceptional outdoor training facilities. In addition to K9 agility field and rubble piles, the facility offers venues to train in confined space rescue, vehicle search and hazardous materials response. The center is unique in the nation, and is available for training by civilian volunteers as well as local, state, and federal emergency response and law enforcement agencies. Various military teams and others from across the county use the training facility and classrooms. Many of these agencies have responded to major disasters such as the Oklahoma City bombing, 9/11, as well as minor missing person searches, and other national, state, and local incident.

Following a disaster, search and rescue professionals can offer vital assistance in recovery efforts. In order to nurture and cultivate a strong search and rescue community within Indiana, the search and rescue training section takes a comprehensive approach by offering training programs in K9 search and rescue, ground search, technical rescue and search management.





Search and Rescue K9 Training Program

The Search and Rescue K9 program consists of structured classes of varying levels and disciplines from foundation work to advanced skills. The training facility also offers workshops, individual instruction, and opportunities for search organizations to utilize training areas at the center.

It is recommended that those assisting with training of a K9 also participate in the K9 courses even if they do not have a K9. Departments or agencies interested in how dogs work are also encouraged to attend K9 courses as observers.



Ground Search and Search Management Training Program

The Ground Search and Search Management Training Program consists of structured classes of varying levels from basic foundation training to advanced skills. Our facility also offers workshops, individual instruction and opportunities for response agencies, search organizations, and individuals to learn about ground search techniques and search management.

These courses not only teach the responder skills needed to properly search for missing persons, but give agencies an opportunity to work together and understand each others' roles during an incident. These courses are the foundation to any well-rounded search and rescue training program.

Technical Rescue Training Program

The Technical Rescue Training Program consists of structured classes designed to train emergency response personnel to safely, efficiently and effectively perform rescues in the event of an emergency. The Search and Rescue Training Center offers several training areas for confined space, vehicle extrication, technical rope rescue and disaster operations.

Questions?

For more information on training opportunities available from IDHS, please visit our website at: www.in.gov/dhs.

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